

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7223

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, CA

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 1977 NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTION PLAN - CANADA -  
PART II

REF: OTTAWA 2982; STATE 139804

1. INTRODUCTION: FY-77 NCAP-CANADA PART II RESPONDS TO THE DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM IN CANADA IN TERMS OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION, INCLUDING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THESE AREAS. PART I OF FY-77 NCAP-CANADA ADDRESSES ITSELF TO ENFORCEMENT ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM (SEE OTTAWA REFTL). THE ANNEX TO STATE A-2665 OF APRIL 17, 1975 HAS ALREADY BEEN SUBMITTED.

2. TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION IN CANADA ARE BUDGETED AT A LEVEL OF APPROXIMATELY TEN MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR UNDER A PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF DRUGS DIRECTORATE OF THE HEALTH PROTECTION BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE. THIS DIRECTORATE HAS ITS HEADQUARTERS IN OTTAWA WITH MAJOR BRANCH OFFICES IN HALIFAX, MONTREAL, TORONTO, WINNIPEG AND VANCOUVER. OF THE TOTAL BUDGET APPROXIMATELY 3.5-4 MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR HAS BEEN GOING INTO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN A JOINT PROGRAM WITH THE MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA (MRC). THIS R&D PROGRAM IS DIRECTED FROM OTTAWA HEADQUARTERS BUT RECEIVES CLOSE SCRUTINY FROM  
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A SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE SELECTED FROM AMONG LEADING

SCIENTISTS ALL OVER CANADA.

3. THE DIRECTORATE PLACES ITS GREATEST RELIANCE ON THE PROGRAMS WHICH IT ADMINISTERS ITSELF AND CHARACTERIZES WITH THE GENERAL OBJECTIE OF ELIMINATING PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND SOCIAL HEALTH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE NON-MEDICAL USE OF DRUGS. (NON-MEDICAL USE OF DRUGS INCLUDES ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO ABUSE AS WELL AS THE MORE COMMONLY ABUSED NARCOTICS, HYPNOTICS AND OTHER PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS.) A MAJOR PORTION OF THE DIRECTORATE'S IMPACT, HOWEVER, DERIVES FROM ITS ENCOURAGEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL CITIZEN GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES IN THEIR EFFORT TO COPE WITH EXISTING DRUG ABUSE PROBLEMS AND TO FOSTER LIFE STYLES WHICH ACT AS EFFECTIVE PREVENTATIVES TO DRUG ABUSE.

4. THE BASIC PHILOSOPHY OF BOTH THE DIRECTORATE-OPERATED AND DIRECTORATE-INSPIRED PROGRAM IS THAT OF A REJECTING THE HABITUAL USE AND PARTICULARLY ABUSE OF ANY MIND-ALTERING SUBSTANCES. IN RELATIVELY PERMISSIVE SOCIETIES IT IS TO BE EXPECTED THAT THIS BASIC PHILOSOPHY FROM TIME TO TIME IS QUESTIONED BY SERIOUS AUTHORITIES AND LUNATIC FRINGE ELEMENTS OF BOTH LIBERAL AND CONSERVATIVE BENT. AFTER A STORMY BEGINNING, THE DIRECTORATE HAS IN RECENT YEARS BEEN ABLE, HOWEVER, TO ENLIST STRONG SUPPORT FOR ITS PROGRAMS. INCREASED ACTIVITY IN THE POPULAR AND SOCIALLY ACCEPTED AREAS OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL MIGHT RESULT IN SOME DETERIORATION OVER THE COMING YEARS IN THIS SUPPORT. THE BROAD MIDDLE SPECTRUM OF CANADIAN OPINION MAY OCCASIONALLY QUESTION, BUT NEVERTHELESS GENERALLY SUPPORTS THE THESIS THAT MOOD ALTERATION BY THE USE OF SUCH SUBSTANCES AS HEROIN OR LSD IS NOT GOOD FOR SOCIETY. AS IN THE U.S., HOWEVER, MOOD ALTERATION WITH ALCOHOL IS NOW ALMOST UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED AND ALMOST AS WIDELY PRACTICED.

5. THE DIRECTORATE IS DIVIDED INTO THREE BUREAUS, EACH OF WHICH COPIES WITH A SPECIAL ASPECT OF THE DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM, AS FOLLOWS:

A. RESEARCH AND ANALYTICAL SERVICES - THE NAME OF THIS BUREAU IS SELF-DEFINITIVE. DURING THE LAST CANADIAN FISCAL YEAR, APRIL 1 TO MARCH 30, THE BUREAU HAS FUNDED 76 DIFFERENT RESEARCH PROJECTS. THESE PROJECTS ARE IN THOSE AREAS OF DRUG ABUSE CONSIDERED TO BE OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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GREATEST IMMEDIATE SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO CANADA. THIS NATURALLY VARIES FROM TIME TO TIME. SOME YEARS AGO, MARAJUANA OCCUPIED FIRST PLACE IN THE NUMBER OF PROJECTS. SOMEWHAT LATER THE AMPHETAMINES OCCUPIED FIRST PLACE, AND IN REFLECTION OF THE INCREASING

HARD DRUG PROBLEM RESEARCH IN BOTH HEROIN AND COCAINE IS NOW RAPIDLY INCREASING. THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS IN VERY GENERAL TERMS THE AREAS OF CONCENTRATION FOR EACH FISCAL

YEAR. THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF AT THE DIRECTORATE ACCEPTS PROPOSALS FROM UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCHERS AND THESE ARE IN TURN, AFTER SCREENING, CONSIDERED IN DETAIL BY THE GRANT COMMITTEES. THE WHOLE PROGRAM IS OPERATED IN COOPERATION WITH THE MRC WHICH ADDS MONEY OF ITS OWN TO THE BUDGET. IN A RELATIVELY NEW PROGRAM, THE BUREAU ALSO ENCOURAGES RESEARCH AMONG STUDENTS THROUGH SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS AND WAS ABLE TO AWARD APPROXIMATELY 200 DURING THE PAST CANADIAN FISCAL YEAR.

B. PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION BUREAU - THIS BUREAU ENCOURAGES THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY GROUPS IN THE PROVINCES. THROUGH ITS FIVE REGIONAL OFFICES, THE BUREAU FUNDED 126 PROJECTS DURING THE YEAR, UNDER THE INNOVATIVE SERVICES CONTRIBUTIONS PROGRAM. THE PROJECTS WERE DESIGNED TO STIMULATE AND PROMOTE BETTER AND MORE EFFECTIVE PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS DEALING WITH A BROAD RANGE OF SOCIAL, HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO CHEMICAL ABUSE. INCLUDED WERE RESIDENTIAL AND OUTPATIENT TREATMENT CENTERS, GROUP HOMES, NATIVE AND INDUSTRIAL ALCOHOLISM PROJECTS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE POSITIVE LIFESTYLE CHANGES AS A MEANS OF RELIEVING STRESSFUL LIFE SITUATIONS WHICH MAY LEAD TO ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE. PROJECTS ARE NORMALLY FUNDED FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO THREE YEARS AND ARE PERIODICALLY EVALUATED BY THE BUREAU'S FIELD STAFF, WITH THE HELP OF OUTSIDE SPECIALISTS AND UNDER THE GENERAL GUIDANCE OF THE DIRECTORATE'S RESEARCH BUREAU. PROJECT RESULTS ARE THEN DISSEMINATED THROUGHOUT THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES DELIVERY SYSTEMS ACROSS CANADA.

C. INFORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES - THIS BUREAU CONCERNS ITSELF

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WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION FOR GENERAL AUDIENCES AND THROUGH THE USE OF INFORMATION/EDUCATION TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS OF PERSONS IN THE FIELD OF OF NON-MEDICAL DRUG USE. THE BUREAU IS WORKING WITH THE PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES TO IMPROVE INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMS. THIS IS BEING ACHIEVED THROUGH COOPERATIVE ACTION IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS RELATING TO PRIORITY NEEDS OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE. ANOTHER MAJOR DEVELOPMENT IS AN EDUCATION PROGRAM TO HELP SCHOOL CHILDREN MAKE WISE DECISIONS ABOUT DRUG USE. PROJECTS WERE UNDER DEVELOPMENT TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT NON-SMOKING. A 12-MINUTE FILM ON EMPHYSEMA, A LUNG AILMENT, WAS COMPLETED.

6. IN ADDITION TO THE FEDERALLY-SPONSORED PROGRAMS, SEVERAL OF THE PROVINCES SPONSOR BOTH A TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION

PROGRAM INCLUDING IN TWO CASES A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF R&D. TYPICAL OF THESE PROVINCIALLY-SPONSORED PROGRAMS IS THAT OF THE ONTARIO ADDICTION RESEARCH FOUNDATION IN TORONTO, WHICH ALSO AHAPPENS TO BE THE LARGEST IN THE COUNTRY. DEALING AS THESE PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS DO WITH THE STREET-LEVEL ADDICT, THEIR HISTORIES ARE CONSIDERABLY MORE STORMY AND FROM TIME TO TIME CAUGHT UP IN CONTROVERSY THAN THE FEDERAL PROGRAM. PARTICULARLY AS THEIR PROGRAMS RELATE TO THE HARD DRUGS THEY ARE CAUGHT IN THE FAMILIAR DILEMMA THAT IF ON THE ONE HAND THEY ATTEMPT TO BE HUMANE AND HELPFUL WITH THE ADDICT, THEY ARE EITHER "RIPPED OFF" BY THE ADDICTS AND/OR ROUNDLY CRITICIZED BY THE PUBLIC FOR CODDLING. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THEY TAKE A MORE STERN APPROACH THE ADDICTS TEND TO STAY ON THE STREET RATHER THAN COME TO THEM FOR TREATMENT AND ANOTHER SEGMENT OF THE PUBLIC EQUALLY ROUNDLY CRITICIZES THEM FOR BEING INHUMANE AND INSENSITIVE TO THE REAL ROOT PROBLEMS OF ADDICTION. CONSIDERING THE GREAT DIFFICULTIES IN DOING ANYTHING REALLY EFFECTIVE FOR THE HARDCORE ADDICT, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THESE PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS ARE ABOUT WHAT ONE HAS COME TO EXPECT BASED ON U.S. EXPERIENCE. COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS IS GOOD AND COOPERATION IN SUCH PROGRAMS AS TRIPS BETWEEN CANADA AND THE U.S. HAS BEEN UNIFORMLY EASY AND HELPFUL. PORTER

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